

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. G. Rosenblatt (reg. #45056) on 9/30/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claims:

In line 9 of claim 1, "one of the base and a cover section and provided" has been changed to -- one of the base and a cover section, and provided--.

In lines 6-7 of claim 7, "one of a base and a cover section and separate" has been changed to -- one of a base and a cover section, and separate--.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 2 and 7 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims are allowable because prior art fails to teach an optical fiber cleaving device and method for cleaving optical fibers comprising an auxiliary support section pivotably disposed on one of the base and a cover section, and provided separate from the clamp sections and movable independently of the blade section and the pusher section, in

Art Unit: 3724

combination with other limitations set forth in claims 1 & 7, and with the other limitations of the dependent claims.

Re claims 1 and 7, Mansfield teaches Mansfield discloses an optical fiber cleaving device 33 and method for cleaving optical fibers comprising a base section per Fig. 4, a pair of clamp sections 34 & 36, provided on said base section per Fig. 4 and spaced at a predetermined distance from each other for supporting an unsheathed optical fiber 11 extending there between per Fig. 5A & 5B, a blade section 41 provided movably relative to said base section (movement direction shown as 42) per Fig. 4 and including an edge capable of being disposed at a fiber cleaving position defined between said clamp sections 34 & 36 per Fig. 5A & 5B, and a pusher section 40 provided movably relative to said base section independently of said blade section 41 and including a pushing face 38 capable of being disposed at said fiber cleaving position per Fig. 4, 5A & 5B, wherein: said optical fiber cleaving device 33 comprises an auxiliary support section as shims between 34 or 24 and 36 or 26 mounted on 33 per Fig. 11, provided separate from the clamp sections per col. 13, lines 40-67, and movably relative to said base section independently of said blade section and said pusher section per Fig. 3A & 4 [col. 5, lines 4-7; & col. 6, Lines 5-59], and capable of being disposed at an operable position for supporting an unsheathed optical fiber in cooperation with said clamp sections.

However, Mansfield fails to teach an optical fiber cleaving device and method for cleaving optical fibers comprising an auxiliary support section pivotably disposed on one

Art Unit: 3724

of the base and a cover section, and provided separate from the clamp sections and movable independently of the blade section and the pusher section.

None of these and the prior arts of record references by themselves or in combination with the other prior art cited teach the claimed invention set forth in claim 1 and 7.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Miller (4667862), Suda (5024363, 5106006), Seike (5104021), Bauer (5154333), Borer (5395025), Wiegand (5813902), Mansfield (5839635), Kazama (6634079), Lee (6754426) and Hayashi (7391951) teach various types of optical fiber cleaving devices.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BHARAT C. PATEL whose telephone number is (571)270-3078. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, alt. Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on 24502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3724

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Bharat C Patel/
Examiner, Art Unit 3724
October 5, 2009.

/Ghassem Alie/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3724